



The Newsletter for Employees of the University of Louisville Libraries
Vol. 20, No. 5 Summer, 2005

The Owl

"The Owl of Minerva takes flight only as the dusk begins to fall." — Hegel

Summer Reader's Picks 2005: The Fine Art of Recommending Books

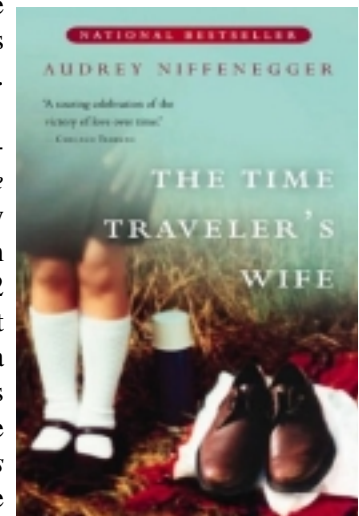
By Anna Marie Johnson
Owl Book Editor

Every year for her birthday, I try to find my sister a good book and every year, I'm struck by the difficulty of doing this for her. My sister is a fairly discriminating reader; thus, I have to know what might move her and what might offend. So far, I've had success with a Silas House novel, Alexander McCall Smith, and an Orson Scott Card fantasy novel. Books I found extraordinary, Wendell Berry's *Jayber Crow* (Ekstrom Browsing PS 3552 .E75 J39 2000) and Barbara Kingsolver's *Poisonwood Bible* (Ekstrom Browsing PS 3561 .I496 P65 1998), she just couldn't get into. So I've come to appreciate people who have recommended some really great books to me over the past six months, and I hope that some of my picks will be enjoyed by OWL readers.

Andy Anderson has sent not one but three wonderful novels my way so far this year. He's included one as his pick below, but here are the other two which I would recommend: *Indiana, Indiana* by Laird Hunt (Ekstrom Browsing PS3608.U58 I5 2003). Andy described this as "quirky" which I think is quite apt. It is part love story, part mystery, part poem and so it is also dream-like, poignant, and perhaps even a little spooky. It is the story of Noah who lives on a farm in Indiana and who for 42 days was married to Opal, until she set their house on fire. Also figuring in the story are his parents Virgil and Ruby, and a person named Max. The story is told through Noah's memories, letters from Opal, and Noah's "visions" and it is told in non-linear fashion. On the cover, Hunt is compared to early Michael Ondaatje, so if you like his books, you'll likely enjoy this one too.

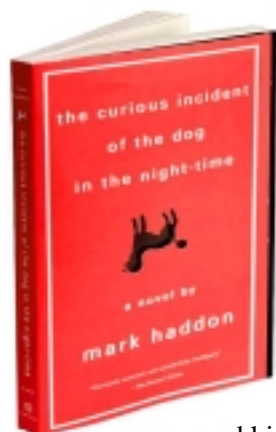
Winner of the National Book Award by Jincy Willett (Ekstrom Browsing PS3573 .I4455 W56 2003). It has quotes on the cover from Augusten Burroughs (*Running with Scissors*) "funniest novel I have read....ever" and a quote from David Sedaris on the back about the author's book of short stories. And the first half of the novel definitely lived up to those recommendations. The narrator is a celibate librarian (named Dorcas) who is telling the story of how her sex-crazed twin sister (Abigail) ended up murdering her husband Conrad. Hmm, you're thinking, there is some stereotyping going on here — yes, but it really isn't that bad. There is a lovely chapter called "Time Out: My Library" which is a lovely description of the public library that Dorcas runs. My quibble, I guess, is in the second half (or maybe the last third if I'm being generous) when the author seems to "get serious." Dorcas falls, in some sense, for the really, really awful Conrad which I found difficult to believe after the build-up. Perhaps it is a case of the narrator protesting too much. In any case, well worth the read but I think Burroughs was exaggerating slightly.

Cathy Hoover recommended *The Time Traveler's Wife* by Audrey Niffenegger (Ekstrom Browsing PS3564.I362 T56 2003) to me without even knowing that I'm a sucker for romances across time. One of my favorite books is *Green Darkness* by Anya Seton so this one



was right up my alley and a great suggestion. The main character Henry DeTamble is a librarian at the Newbery Library in Chicago. He meets Clare who will later become his wife when he is 28 and she is 20. She knows him upon sight; he has never seen her before in his life. The reason? Henry is chronologically impaired: meaning he time travels. Whenever anything is too stressful in his life, he is suddenly whisked away and finds himself, naked, in some other place and time. Sometimes he finds himself with himself which is a little weird to get used to. He's been visiting Clare in her childhood since she was six.. Yes, as one disgruntled Amazon reviewer noted, the time travel angle has been done a lot in science fiction by more talented authors, but I thought the romance was especially poignant here, especially as Henry and Clare struggle to conceive a child. This is a lovely, sad story that I really fell in love with.

Cathy also loaned me *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* by Mark Haddon (Ekstrom Browsing PZ7.H1165 Cu 2003). I was curious to know if this book's autistic main character was drawn in a way that was at all realistic. Judging by an Amazon review from someone who describes themselves as autistic, it apparently does hold true for at least some people afflicted with this condition. More than that though, it is a charming and very human story about Christopher



and his parents as they struggle to play the hands they've been dealt. The in-depth mathematical descriptions were a little much at times, but the humanity of the story kept me reading.

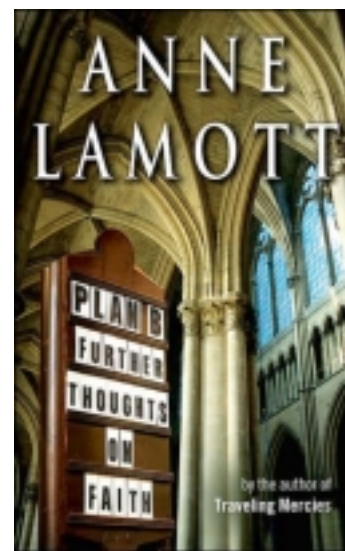
Ifinally read *Dinner at the Homesick Restaurant* by Anne Tyler (Ekstrom stacks PS 3570 .Y45 D5 1982) because it was recommended by my Sunday School teacher Bob Cunningham. Reading this book was a shock of recognition. The Tull family is full of really disagreeable people who are so close to us that we can't help but like them. They seemed too much like my own family — not in the obvious ways, but in the way that we all try to be

something we're not; we have petty jealousies and spats. Still, there is something that keeps pulling them back together when they should, it seems, walk away from each other forever. I'd been meaning to read Anne Tyler for years, forgot I even owned a copy of this book myself, and now am a convert. Usually, I don't cry in a book until the end, but this one brought tears to my eyes early on and didn't really stop.

The Life of Pi was someone's reader's pick at some point — now I just can't remember whose! It is a really good story about the power of story in our lives. My enthusiasm for it was such that my husband is now reading it and normally our reading tastes cross very rarely.

And finally two books on religion: *The History of God: the 4000 Year Quest of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam* by Karen Armstrong (Ekstrom stacks BT 98 .A65 1994). I didn't get to hear her speak when she was in Louisville, and now I'm really regretting that. *The History of God* is an engaging story of how the monotheistic God of the three title religions came to be. Although there were points when the names and dates become esoteric, Armstrong keeps it lively and is, as the cover of the copy I had suggests, quite witty. Anne Lamott's *Plan B: Further Thoughts on Faith*

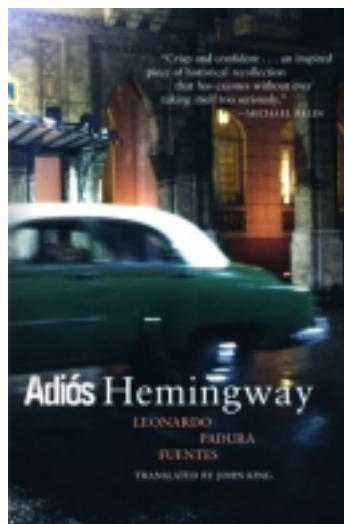
(Ekstrom Browsing PS3562.A4645 Z467 2005) is a follow-up to her book, *Traveling Mercies*. On Amazon, folks either loved this book or hated it unequivocally. Basically, people seemed to have a problem with how many times she mentions hating George W. Bush, but as I saw it, she's struggling to reconcile her intense dislike with her Christian faith. I think she's brutally honest and real; others think she's self-absorbed. Who isn't? I think they're just jealous because she's found a way to make a living from it. I wish I'd thought of that.



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**Andy Anderson, Ekstrom Library,
Photographic Archives**

Adiós Hemingway, by Leonardo Padura Fuentes (Ekstrom



Browsing PQ7390.P32 A6513 2005). Mario Conde has retired from the police force in Havana, Cuba, intending to write fiction in the style of Ernest Hemingway. When a violent storm unearths a bullet-riddled body on Hemingway's former estate, Conde is asked to come out of retirement to solve the case. What follows is both good, police-procedural detective fiction and a superb, letter-

perfect evocation of pre-revolutionary Cuba and of Hemingway's life at the estate just prior to the revolution. The writing is an eerie mix of fact and fiction. Every detail (Hemingway's dog, his aging employees and friends, his .22 revolver wrapped in a pair of Ava Gardner's black silk panties) is completely believable. The scenes are so real that they cause the reader to feel, to want to feel, that Hemingway was involved in the murder and its cover up. If this novel is characteristic of Padura Fuentes' fiction, it is easy to see why he has been called Cuba's Dashiell Hammett. Although Ekstrom holds two of his non-fiction works, *Adiós Hemingway* is the only novel. Look for the author's name as "Padura, Leonardo" in Minerva

Katrina Butcher, Ekstrom Library Circulation

Mistress of Dragons, (Dragonvarld Trilogy, Book 1) by Margaret Weis (Ekstrom Browsing PS3573.E3978 M575 2003). This story begins with the Mistress of Dragons walking through her ritualistic morning habits to end standing in front of a magic bowl of water that allows her to search for invading dragons headed toward the small Kingdom of Seth. She and her entire community of Priestesses and Female Warriors spend every moment of their lives in careful preparation and difficult training to protect Seth from a devastating dragon attack. Then her entire world comes crashing down around her, as an insidious foundation of lies is revealed: a renegade and ancient dragon (named Maristara) has actually been possessing the bodies of each head of the Order over the previous three hundred years in order to control them and hide herself from the justice of the Council of Dragons. The Council of Dragons has finally discovered this be-

trayal and their attempts to rescue these unsuspecting humans and bring Maristara to answer for her crimes are all filtered through murder, intrigue and — eventually — war. This is the first in a three part series.

The second book is *The Dragon's Son* (Ekstrom Browsing PS3573.E3978 D76 2004). The cliff-hanging end of the first book picks up after the birth of twins — half-dragon and half-human. One of the boys is physically marked by his half-dragon heritage and is taken into hiding, to be raised away from the eyes of men. The other is raised as the beloved son of a king — but faces his own internal demons as the dragon magic wreaks havoc on his sanity. A fierce jealousy and anger rage in the dragon-marked child for the life marked by kindness and love that his brother has known. This threatens both their lives as the Dragons — good and evil — track the boys to use them, and their unique powers, for the dragons' own purposes. I hope Dragonvarld Trilogy, Book 3 will be out later this year!



Bill Carner, Ekstrom Library, Photographic Archives

The Crusades through Arab Eyes by Amin Maalouf; translated by Jon Rothschild (Ekstrom stacks DS 38.6 .M3213 1984). I recommended this book years ago, probably about the time of the First Gulf War. But it's even more appropriate now, during this Second Modern Crusade. The book may be twenty years old but the scars both sides bear from the Crusades are nearly a thousand years old, making the book very contemporary in relative chronological terms. The fact that Maalouf wrote *The Crusades* during a period of apparent peace between modern Crusaders and Arabs, rather than as a response to the current events in Iraq, may make it easier for the reader to accept Maalouf's description of the outrageous behavior by both sides for the fair and balanced portrayal of events that it is. The book is also a good read, full of heroes, villains, battles and betrayals.

Mr. Paradise: A Novel by Elmore Leonard (Ekstrom Browsing PS3562.E55 M75 2004). Elmore's latest and one of his better stories. This one follows cops, criminals and a Victoria's Secret model through a series of botched

crimes in Detroit. The story is really secondary to the writing; for a reader familiar with Leonard's work, each phrase is filled out by its resonance with his previous work. Leonard's style has become so spare, I have to wonder if a first-time reader might get lost in the book.

Django : the Life and Music of a Gypsy Legend by Michael Dregni (Ekstrom Browsing ML419.R44 D74 2004). A great biography of a great musician. The first



third of the book, dealing with Django's early years and his rise to fame followed by the fire in his Gypsy caravan which nearly killed him and permanently disfigured his hands, is the most compelling part of the book. After Django's recovery the book bogs down in spots with descriptions of recording sessions and set lists, but there's always something in the next page

or two to draw the reader back in. Keep your Django CDs handy while you're reading this one.

Gail Gilbert, Art Library

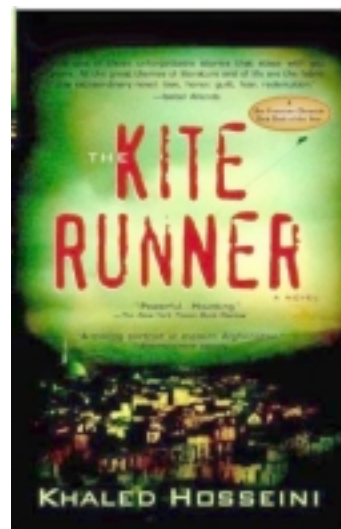
OK, I just finished *The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri (Ekstrom Browsing PS3562.A316 N36 2003). Someone probably submitted it in the past. It's a great book but I don't have time to write a review. Here's what an Amazon review said: "Focusing on themes of displacement and foreignness, and the bewildering and alienating process of assimilating into a new society, *The Namesake* is powerful and genuine, blending humor and drama into a realistic portrait of a family." Lahiri's previous book was also good: *Interpreter of Maladies* (Ekstrom Browsing PS 3562 .A316 I58 1999).

Julia Graepel, Music Library

Year of Wonders: A Novel of the Plague by Geraldine Brooks (Ekstrom Browsing PR 9619.3 .B7153 Y4 2001). *Year of Wonders* is a fictional story based on real events in 17th century Britain (1665-1666). After the plague raging in London reaches a remote village, its residents decided to quarantine themselves to prevent further spread to other villages. The story is told by Anna Frith, an 18-year-old resident of the village. It's a superbly written book and one of the best I have read in recent memory.

Cathy Hoover, Ekstrom Library, Information Literacy

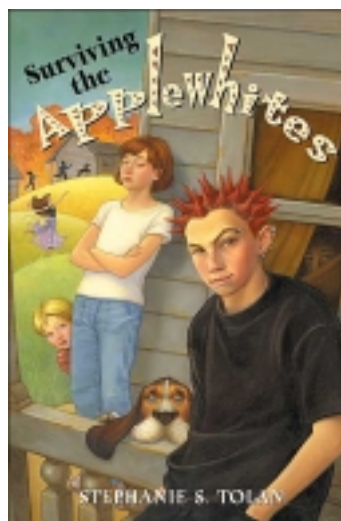
I recently read *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini (Ekstrom Browsing PS3608.O832 K58). It was one of the best books that I have read in a really long time...one that you're sorry to see end. It's told from the point of view of a child and the story continues into his adulthood. It's a story of how we must live with and eventually come to terms with the decisions that we make.



Marette Irwin, Ekstrom Library, Technical Services

My 11-year-old daughter Kim is a very avid reader and I have found some wonderful books for her in the Ekstrom Library Multi-cultural Children's Literature Collection on the second floor. Recommended reading for everyone!

Surviving the Applewhites by Stephanie Tolan (Ekstrom Multi-cultural Children's Books PZ7.T5735 Su 2002). When Jake is kicked out of another school, he is sent to live with the Applewhites, an artistic family who runs its own school. This funny book, filled with eccentric characters and situations, is alternatively narrated by 13-year-old Jake and 12-year-old E.D., the non-artistic Applewhite. This is a Newbery Honor Book.



Locomotion by Jacqueline (Ekstrom Multi-cultural Children's Books PS 3573.064524 L63 2003). Through the encouragement of his teacher, 11-year-old Lonnie begins to write poetry. His free verse poems tell of his experience following the death of his parents, his foster mother, and missing his sister who lives with a different family. This slim but powerful book won the Coretta Scott King Honor Book award.

Trouble Don't Last by Shelley Pearson (Ekstrom Multicultural Children's Books PZ7.P3166 Tr 2002). 11-year-old Samuel has only known life as a slave on a Kentucky farm until one night 70-year-old slave Harrison takes him on a journey to freedom through the Underground Railroad. This exciting, suspenseful book won the Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction.

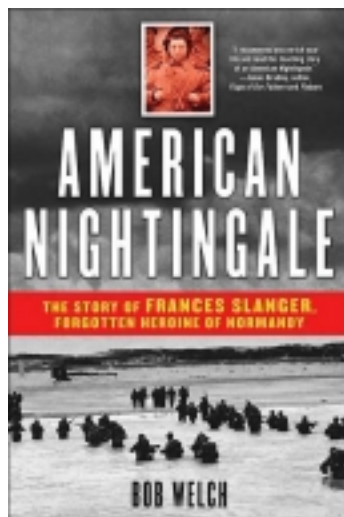
Sarah Jent, Ekstrom Reference

The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd (Ekstrom Browsing PS3611 .I44 S38 2001).

Hunger Point by Jillian Medoff (not owned by Ekstrom).

Kathie Johnson, University Archives

American Nightingale: The Story of Frances Slanger, Forgotten Heroine of Normandy by Bob Welch (Ekstrom stacks D807 .U6 W4 2004). This is a biography of a World War II nurse and it accomplishes what a good biography should by putting the life of one individual in



the context of his or her historical surroundings, allowing the reader to learn not only the story of one person, but also the importance of an entire period in history. Frances Slanger was born in Poland, emigrated to the United States with her family as a young child, then grew up to defy Jewish traditional gender roles by pursuing a nursing career and joining the military. She was one of the nurses who waded

ashore at Normandy Beach in June 1944 and ended up one of the thousands of U.S. troops (but few American women) killed by enemy fire during World War II.

Author Bob Welch alternates the early chapters between describing her life growing up in the Roxbury section of Boston as the daughter of a fruit peddler and recounting her days in the army. He also includes background and epilogue information about her family. He used Slanger's own writings, extensive interviews with still-living members of her medical unit, and did what appears to be exhaustive research in various archives, to write the story of Slanger's life and its effect on others. For those of you who haven't read much about World War II, this is an interesting and educational read without being heavy. The reader can get the feeling of the war and the experi-

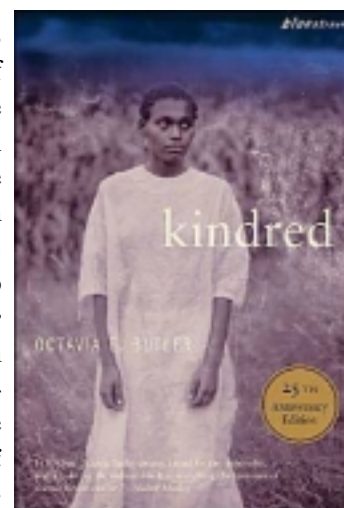
ences of a medical unit without having to slog through lists of battles and/or endless dates.

Ben King, Ekstrom Library, Technical Services

I enjoyed *Jimmy Dean's Own Story: Thirty Years of Sausage, Fifty Years of Ham* by Jimmy Dean (Ekstrom Browsing ML 420 .D436 A3 2004). It was interesting to me to read about his hits of the 60's, his television shows, and then his career making sausage, and all the travails that went along with it.

Carol Kraemer, Ekstrom Library, Stacks Maintenance

One of the reasons I love working in the stacks is that I have great access to new books — new to the library or just new to me. I love the historical fiction genre and have recently found and enjoyed *Wild Ginger* by Anchee Min (Ekstrom Browsing PS 3563.I4614 W35 2002) and *Kindred* by Octavia E. Butler (Ekstrom stacks PS 3552.U827 K5 2004). If you want to explore the sacred feminine in fiction *Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd (Ekstrom Browsing & stacks PS 3611.I44 S38 2001). Also by Sue Monk Kidd, *The Mermaid Chair* (Ekstrom Browsing PS 3611 .I44 M47 2005) and of course Dan Brown's *Da Vinci Code* and *Angels & Demons* (which I preferred) (Ekstrom Browsing PS 3552 .R685434 D3 2003 & PS 3552 .R685434 A82 2005).



Raymond Slaughter, Ekstrom, Shipping & Receiving

I have been reading a bunch of new or recently established mystery writers lately. A good mystery for those who like the lottery is *Hard Luck* (not owned by Ekstrom, but we do have another book in the series, *Hard Road*), written by Barbara D'Amato. Cat Marsala is a freelance journalist and has begun an assignment on the state lottery when a lottery official takes a leap from a building during the multi-state lottery conference. Unfortunately, that lottery official was the one Cat was scheduled to interview about some fishy business going on with the lottery, and it turns out that fall was not suicide. Cat is now entangled in a messy situation and even her own life may be in danger. If you like action, mystery, and sus-

pense, then this is for you.

Elizabeth Smigielski, Kornhauser Library

The Rape of Nanking: The Forgotten Holocaust of World War II, by Lois Chang (Ekstrom stacks DS 796 .N2 C44 1997). Also available on tape from LFPL (6-tape set). This first nonfiction account of the massacre of Nanking by the Japanese is not an easy book to read, but essential if you are interested in 20th century history. Published in 1997, the 60th anniversary of the massacre, this work documents the events in Nanking (now Nanjing) during the second Sino-Japanese War, in the years leading up to World War II. In December 1937, Japanese troops entered the city. In less than two months, they murdered more than 300,000 civilians and raped somewhere between 20,000-80,000 women. Thousands were saved, though, by the intervention of a handful of westerners who established a safety zone within the city. The head of this effort was a Nazi party official working in Nanking for Siemens, whom Chang calls "the Oskar Schindler of Nanking." This massacre is little known in the western world and is usually omitted from US history textbooks. Tragically, Lois Chang, whose parents were survivors of the massacre, committed suicide on November 9, 2004 at the age of 36. She was working on a book about American soldiers who served in tank units on the Bataan peninsula before World War II.

Listener's Pick: The Louisville Free Public Library carries a number of titles from The Teaching Company. These are recorded lectures (tape, CD, VHS) from the top 1% of professors in the country teaching their best courses. Topics range from religion to history to business to science. Great for road trips or just to listen to around the house. Check it out at www.teach12.com and then check out LFPL's catalog to see what's available locally.

Mike Smith, Ekstrom Library, Circulation

I strongly recommend *On Subbing: The First Four Years* by Dave (it's a small self-published paperback available for \$5 at www.powells.com and other online sources). I received it as a gift a few months ago and it's now one of my favorite books. I like reading about substitute teaching because it holds a "special" place in my heart. Well, substitute teacher Dave has had some pretty special experiences over the years. Instead of going into more detail about the book, I offer you the table of contents in hopes that it will peak your interest:

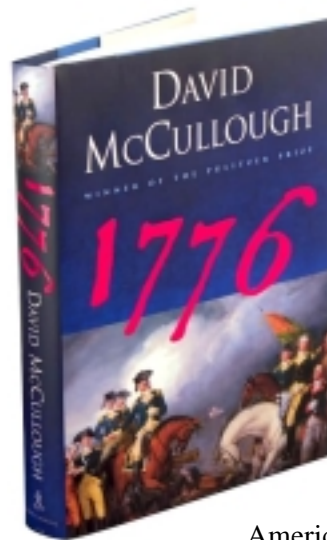
- Glossary: a compendium of useful terms
- My First Year: wherein I try to teach and get kicked in the groin

- Interlude I: bad actions for good reasons
- My Second Year: a mishap buying rice puts my reputation in jeopardy
- Interlude II: an unconventional trip to Salem
- My Third Year: troubled kids watch Michael Jackson videos
- My Fourth Year: brown wheat paste vs. pogo stick injury

Sex, Drugs, and Cocoa Puffs: A Low Culture Manifesto by Chuck Klosterman (Ekstrom Browsing E169.12 .K56 2003) is one of the best books I've read this year. One of my students let me borrow this book because we're around the same age and he was certain I would enjoy it. He was right! Klosterman offers us a well-written book that's intelligent, funny, and easy to follow. He embraces the Generation X label and tells us exactly why. Just how influential were Zack Morris and Kelly Kapowski as we were growing up in the early 90s? Is the meaning of life locked away in the videogame The Sims? Why didn't the Trix rabbit ever get to eat one lousy bowl of cereal? If you think about these questions as much as I do, get ready for some answers!

Barbara Whitener, Ekstrom Library, Reference

Of the books I've read in the last few months, the best novel is *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson (Ekstrom PS3568.O3125 G55 2004). This quiet but powerful novel is set in Iowa in 1956. A 76-year-old dying minister is writing a letter to his six-year old son.



The best non-fiction: *1776* by David McCullough (Ekstrom Browsing E208 .M396 2005) brings to life the critical year of 1776 in American history.

Judy Wulff, Kornhauser Library

Gilead by Marilynne Robinson (Ekstrom Browsing PS3568.O3125 G55 2004). This novel is an elderly Iowa clergyman's letter to his son (almost 7 years old) intended to be read after the man's death. It deals with his love for his younger wife and their son, his relationships with his father and grandfather (a wild, one-eyed abolitionist), also clergymen, and faith, forgiveness, reconcili-

From the Dean of Libraries . . .

The Administrative Coordinating Committee (ACC) Nomenclature Committee developed an organizational chart to:

- a. reduce the number of people reporting to the Dean;
- b. create some Associate/Assistant Dean positions like in other academic units;
- c. update the library organization to make it more efficient.

There will be discussions with all groups before this organizational chart becomes finalized. After that we will slowly begin the implementation of the new structure.

Much planning has been taking place campus-wide to address the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) Challenge for Excellence Goals. Our strategic plan has addressed these goals and the plan has been submitted to the Provost's Office. We have also submitted our Diversity Plan and our Technology Plan.

May 12-14 was very significant for the Libraries, as we hosted the 33rd National LOEX Conference, a most successful event described in the last issue of *The Owl*. Related to the conference we hosted a French visitor, Sylvie Chevillote, a Fulbright Scholar for information literacy.

From May 24-27 I attended the ARL (Association of Research Libraries) bi-annual meeting in Philadelphia. The meeting was very intense as we are implementing the ARL new Strategic Plan which will focus ARL members on three programs:

1. Scholarly Communication;
2. Information and Public Policies;
3. Teaching, Learning and Research;

Diversity will be addressed throughout all areas.

Traci Simonsen, our Development Officer, is beginning to renew and reformulate our Library Associates and we will soon hear more about this effort. She is also planning an annual event with this group.



The SAALCK group met June 3 in Louisville under the new chairmanship of Carol Diedrichs from the University of Kentucky. The group is co-sponsoring the ARL Basic Management Skills Workshop to be held in the fall at Northern Kentucky. Much discussion concerned contracts with various vendors for materials. In the evening we had a farewell dinner for Lee Van Orsdel from Eastern Kentucky University, who has taken a new position in Michigan.

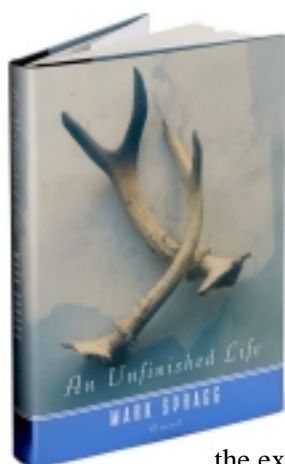
We are planning to move the Muhammad Ali Institute into the Ekstrom Library in October. This will be another enhancement for the libraries and our services.

As usual this has been a very busy time for all of us and I thank you for all your hard work. We will celebrate all our accomplishments July 22 at our annual dinner event at the Derby Museum.

— Hannelore Rader, Dean of University Libraries

ation, race, friendship, and small town ties. Oops—seems

like I've just described a real snoozer, but it's beautifully written, compelling reading. Look up the reviews.



An Unfinished Life by Mark Spragg (Ekstrom Browsing PS3619.P73 U54 2004) Another novel about the complexity of the relations among children, parents and grandparents, an unlikely friendship, forgiveness, and reconciliation. Not

the extraordinary book that *Gilead* is, it is still a book whose characters and story have kept me thinking about them.

THANK YOU

Alice Abbott-Moore
Gwendline Chenault
Angel Clemons
Carolyn Gettler
Gail Gilbert
Anna Marie Johnson
Katharine Johnson
Marcia Kotlinski
Weiling Liu
Tom Owen
Hannelore Rader
Jessie Roth
Mike Smith

Library News

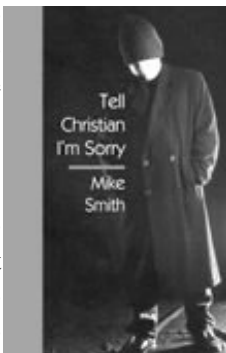
Art Library

Maintenance is the keyword in the Art Library this summer. Student assistant Cheryl Caskey is using Mylar and acid free paper to cover books suffering from red rot, thus keeping them from staining neighboring volumes. She is also re-labeling books whose labels are falling off and helping with the project to link our journals.

Don't forget to visit the exhibit of artists' books in Schneider Hall. It will be up through July.

Ekstrom Library Circulation & Interlibrary Loan

Mike Smith and his wife will be visiting New York and California during the week of July 4. They will be promoting Mike's book *Tell Christian I'm Sorry* and his new book, *Tremendous Power of Concentration*, visiting old friends, watching fireworks, and checking out all that is not Kentucky. Mike will also begin teaching English 101 (Introduction to College Writing) at Daymar College upon his return.



Jami Allen and her husband went to Rough River State Resort Park on July 2 for a family cookout. She started teaching History 101 at UofL on July 5. In addition, Jami's annual family Holiday World trip is July 23.

Ryan Taylor Stearman will be visiting his family in Napa over the second week of August. We hope he enjoys his family reunion.

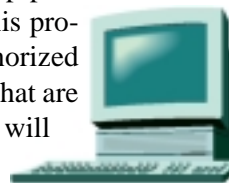
Katrina Butcher went to Mammoth Cave on a camping retreat with about 20 other enthusiasts. She took the Black Onyx cave tour and said that if you were not bothered by bats hanging very close to your head, very uneven steps that were wet and slippery with water and clay that descend at a very sharp angle, and any claustrophobia whatsoever, it was a wonderful cave tour. The rest of the camping weekend went very well, and Mammoth

Cave Park was incredibly beautiful.

Office of Libraries Technology

Disk Storage Cleanup on Public PCs

In response to requests and feedback, during the summer OLT will start testing a new cleanup program (created by Mike Purcell). This program removes files stored in authorized locations (such as My Documents) that are 90 days old. The cleanup program will also remove some temporary files created by the system during application software use (e.g., temporary files created by Internet Explorer and the cache history). The schedules for when and how frequently the program will run are not yet finalized. Should you notice anything unusual, please report it to the OLT. Currently the OLT is testing the program. More detailed information will be released when ready.



MetaLib Implementation Update

Due to the unpredicted problem that occurred during the version 3.13 upgrade, the tentative target date for internal release has been postponed. Now the system is up again and has a few databases activated. The Implementation Team will continue work on the configurations. A new release date will be announced later. More specific information will be available as time approaches. To see who is on the team and for more information, please visit the Libraries' Intranet at <http://staff.library.louisville.edu/ertm/metalib/> or go directly to <http://www.library.louisville.edu/olt/metalib/metalib.stm>

SFX Implementation Update

Major customization of version 3 is close to complete. We are waiting for June's monthly update to upgrade to version 3. Version 3 will include an A-Z List with searchable title, subject category and database vendors. To check on the implementation progress, please visit the Libraries' Intranet at <http://staff.library.louisville.edu/ertm/sfx/> or go directly to http://www.library.louisville.edu/olt/sfx/sfx_beta.stm. You are encouraged to review it and send us your suggestions and comments.

Office of the Dean

On behalf of the Employer Support of the National Guard and Reserves (ESGR), a branch of the Department of Defense, Commander Alan Gorski, the Commanding Officer of the Louisville Navy Reserve Center, presented Hannelore Rader, Dean University Libraries, Diane



Library Clerk and Naval Reservist Raymond Slaughter, Commander Alan Gorski and Dean of Libraries Hannelore Rader.

Nichols, Director, Ekstrom Library and Dave Loeffler, Library Support Services, with the Patriot Award for their recognition of the important roles employees of the National Guard and Reserves play in defending our country.

Congratulations and Welcome!

Professor Suzy Palmer, Collection Development, has been awarded tenure effective July 1, 2006.

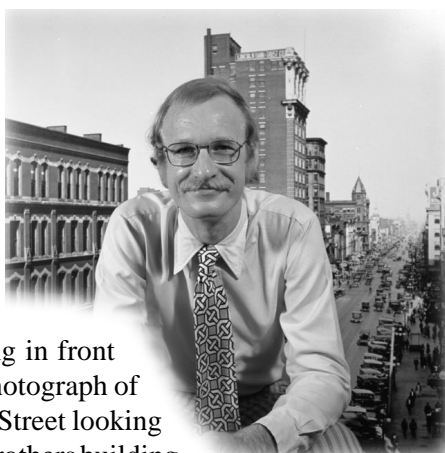
Effective July 5, 2005, Marion Vernadat, Montpellier/Louisville Sister Cities intern began summer assignments in Circulation and Technical Services.

Marvin Proctor, the Reclaim Our Children intern, has begun his summer assignment with Circulation/ILL. Marvin will assist clients in the afternoons, daily through August 4, 2005.

Special Collections

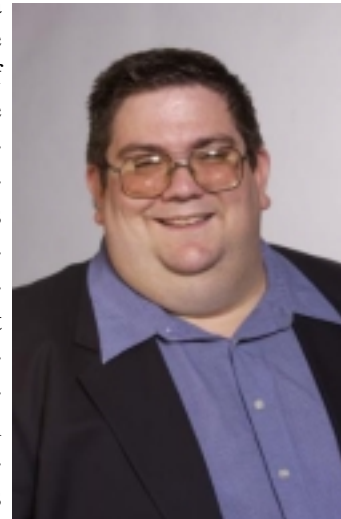
Anniversary

Andy Anderson was recently recognized by the University for 35 years of service. Shown here is a photograph of Andy shortly after he started work. He is sitting in front of a mural-size photograph of a view of Market Street looking east to the Levy Brothers building.



SLA Board Nomination

James Manasco has been nominated Chapter Cabinet Chair-Elect for the Special Libraries Association (SLA). James has been a member of SLA since 1994. He is a member of the Kentucky Chapter, the Science-Technology Division, the Physics-Astronomy-Mathematics Division and the Information Technology Division. James has served, at various times, as President, Director and co-editor of the chapter bulletin for the Kentucky Chapter. He has also served as Chair of the Science-Technology Division and is currently Baltimore Program Planner for the Information Technology Division. He previously served on the Association's Public Relations Committee. James received the 2003-2004 Professional Award from the Kentucky Chapter.



Technical Services

Marette Irwin's mother, who lives in Cape Town, South Africa, came to visit her, husband Tom, and daughters Ingrid and Kim the first two weeks of June, and the whole family took an enjoyable trip to Gatlinburg in the Smoky Mountains, where Marette took the striking photo on the next page. Kim, aged 10, observed a live bear next to the swimming pool of the condo where they were staying—this was her highlight of the trip!

Sarah Weller, one of the newer faces in Technical Services, will marry her fiancé on July 16th, 2005. They are currently planning a week-long honeymoon/vacation in Las Vegas.

Kersey Library

Conference/Vacation News

Jan Kulkarni attended the American Society of Engineering Education (ASEE) Conference in Portland, Oregon, June 12-16. After the conference, Jan and his wife are looking forward to some vacation time. They are going West to Death Valley and other western sights. He will be returning with lots of pictures and exciting stories ... and probably a western hat! Maybe they'll watch a "shoot-out" in one of the famous western towns!



A spectacular view of the Smoky Mountains. *Photo by Marette Irwin.*

July Vacation

Marcia Kotlinski will be off most of July enjoying a visit of her daughter and family from California. Lots of places to go and sights to see!

June Birthdays

Our very own Matt Kokas and Suman Murari celebrated their birthdays in June. Kersey Library would like to extend birthday wishes to the rest of you celebrating that special day in June and July.

Music Library

Marlene Ballena, student assistant, has begun taking an inventory of print materials in the Music Library. Her work is part of a project to inventory all items in the Music Library. Julia Graepel, Assistant Director of the Music Library, got the idea for this undertaking at the April 28-30 EndUser Conference in Chicago.

UARC

Wedding Bells

Carrie Daniels and Roy Fuller were married Saturday, June 18, in a beautiful service held at Highland Baptist Church, followed by a reception in the church's social hall. Carrie and Roy met at this church and are active members.



Carrie looked stunning in her ivory wedding dress — with beaded bodice, low-cut back, spaghetti straps, and sheer overlay A-line skirt. Roy also cut a striking figure in his black tuxedo. Roy's daughters Alecia and Megan served as junior attendants, as well as being included in part of the service creating the new Fuller-Daniels family.

We all welcome Roy, Alecia, and Megan as part of our UARC family!

Travel News

In May, Tom and Phyllis Owen and their daughter, Elisa, spent four wonderful days in Spain — all either in or within a couple hours drive of Madrid except for a day-trip by air to Barcelona. They were treated like royalty by the several Spanish students who lived with them over the past fifteen years. The travelers then joined a son, daughter-in-law and four-year-old grandson for a wonderful week at a cliff-side town in Southern Italy. All the traveling was to celebrate graduations: the daughter's graduation from Princeton Seminary and daughter-in-law's from the UofL Medical School. As usual, Tom has written eight pages of verbal "snapshots" of the trips that he'll be glad to share.



Bill Morison's wife, Ellen McIntyre, spent much of her recent sabbatical in Oaxaca, Mexico, and in Barcelona, Spain. Bill visited her in both spots and came back singing his praises of the two cities and the people he met there. Ellen and Bill also drove to Granada with some Louisville friends and spent several hours mesmerized by the Alhambra (above).

ALLERGIES: NOTHING TO SNEEZE AT!

With the allergy season upon us, this is a good time to spread some knowledge that may help fellow sufferers. Karen has experienced a lot of sinus and allergy trouble during the past year, and has found that some others in Ekstrom are suffering the same fate. In this LifeStyle, we'll share information regarding free or inexpensive ways to improve our environment. After spending \$1,500.00 on medicine, Karen discovered during the last year that the most effective things for her have been free: for example, taking control of one's environment. Here's a summary of the most helpful information she found on the web.

Taking control of one's environment with regard to dust and other allergens also ties into de-cluttering. (See *The Owl's* May 2005 LifeStyle article).

Why not clean up? One action could achieve two goals!

Free or inexpensive things you can do to help control your environment:

- Dust weekly with a wet damp, lint-free rag.
- De-clutter—clutter accumulates dust. Remember, even if you are not suffering from allergies, your clutter may be contributing to another person's misery.
- Cover air vents with cheese cloth and change each month.
- Keep doors closed to control airflow and reduce incoming-allergens.

Congestion

Don't blow your nose — this irritates and swells nasal membranes.

Irrigate — this clears the passages without irritating and swelling membranes, while providing needed moisture. There are a variety of products available on the web or at your pharmacy.

Moisture

Moisture is necessary to keep your sinuses working at optimum capacity. If your doctor has recommended antihistamines, they can be very effective; however they can dry your sinuses too much. To help alleviate the

dryness you can:

- Drink lots of water
- Use nasal sprays and irrigation systems

To help hydration and to thin mucus, consider reducing the consumption of the following foods:

- Dairy
- Caffeine
- Salt
- Sugar

Air Humidity

Ideal humidity level: 45-55 is preferable.

Turn off space heaters — wear more clothing layers (an extra benefit is saving on electrical costs).

The Not-So-Easy

People who suffer from animal allergies — (e.g., dander) often have to receive allergy shots. Sometimes shots and medication aren't as effective as needed. This can lead to a very painful decision: whether or not to avoid the animals that carry allergens. In many cases, the very painful decision involves giving up a most beloved pet.

I am one who suffers extremely from cat and dog dander. Keeping control of one's environment is very crucial. I have been in the homes of those who are very fastidious about cleaning and those who are not. The difference is amazing. A dear friend of mine has a wonderful cat that has full reign of the house and yard, and not once in at least 12 years have I ever been affected by this cat's presence — he is my bud. The main reason? His owner is a wonderful house-keeper. So for me, there is a lot of validity to the link between cleanliness and de-cluttering, and cutting down on allergy and sinus suffering.

Sources

AllergyBeGone <http://www.allergybegone.com/> (products and allergy information)

American Lung Association (go to Allergies) <http://www.lungusa.org/>

Mayo Clinic Go to Allergies <http://www.mayoclinic.com/>

Medline: <http://www.medlineplus.gov/>

DARE TO SAY THANK YOU!

"Thank you to all those who worked so hard to make the 33rd National LOEX 2005 conference a huge success: Michel Atlas, Mary Barbosa-Jerez, Terri Holtze, Cathy Hoover, Sarah Jent, Jan Kulkarni, Leon Leydershnyder, Calvin Miracle, Suzy Palmer, Mark Paul, and Latisha Reynolds. And also thanks to Karen Hild and Carol Kraemer who provided lovely entertainment for the conference's reception!" —Anna Marie Johnson

"Erea Marshall for sending out a large mailing for Photo Archives in record time with minimal notice! She worked through her lunches and stayed late in the evening to make sure the mailing was accurately addressed, signed and delivered in two days. Thank you, Erea!" —Traci Simonsen

"A big thanks on behalf of my family to all who covered for me during maternity leave. It was a relief to be away without worrying about work and to make an easy transition back. Your support and kindness is not taken for granted!" —Elizabeth Smigielski
on behalf of Richard and Virginia

Traci "tanks" a million. —Jessie Roth



Betty Hahn. Untitled [Lone Ranger and Tonto] 82.16.5
Modern Gum Bichromate

Exhibits

Art Library Belknap Gallery,

Artists Books: Selections from the Margaret M. Bridwell Art Library

Artists' books are works of art in book form, with "book" being very broadly interpreted. The 64 books in the exhibit demonstrate a wide variety of techniques, from a photocopied book to decks of cards, from pop-ups to examples of exquisite printing and binding. There are many books with handmade papers, unusual formats and unusual bindings. There are also a few fine press books. Stop by and see the show Monday through Friday from 8:30 to 4:30 and most Saturdays from 10 to 1.

Covi Gallery

Mixed Bouquet: Prints and Drawings from the Steven Block Collection

All exhibits up through July 2005

Gallery X

Type & Typographers: Posters from the Communication Arts and Design Program

When you're visiting the Galleries in Schneider Hall, plan to stop by the Art Library to see more artwork. Drawings, prints, watercolors and sculpture are interspersed throughout the 80,000 volume collection. Highlights include a collage by nationally known artist *Alma Lesch* and several works by UofL faculty, past and present.



Ekstrom Library Photographic Archives Gallery

Photographic Diversity: From Daguerreotypes to Digital

March 25 – June 2005

Music Library First Floor

Barbara Tunnell Anderson: Poet, Novelist, and Playwright

A collection of Mrs. Dwight Anderson's works and papers
April 1 – August 12, 2005



"You're gonna need a bigger boat."